Design flooring, multilayer, modular, for floating installation

# EXPONA CLIC 19dB

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

EXPONA CLIC 19dB is constructed of PVC over a rigid core to offer a strong, durable construction which is 100 % waterproof* and offers impressive acoustic performance. The 1212 mm long panels are available in two widths; 177 mm and 196 mm. The panels are locked together without the need for any glue by a unique locking system comprising protruding (upper and lower) male profiles to create a floating floor where the panels can be installed and locked together in a single action. EXPONA CLIC 19dB incorporates an acoustic base and therefore requires no underlay. **To ensure the best finished appearance it is essential to follow these installation instructions carefully.**

## 2. PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

When installing EXPONA CLIC 19dB panels always follow current national standards for the installation of floor coverings. Best current installation practice incorporating the latest technical developments should also be employed. The preparation of the subfloor, the installation of the floor covering and the measures taken to safeguard value are key factors in ensuring optimum suitability and performance of resilient floor coverings. On receipt of materials, check that the colours correspond to those ordered and that there is no damage or visual defects in the material. Check that the material is from one batch if that was requested. Claims for visual defects can only be accepted prior to installation and cutting.

## 3. PREPARATION OF SUBFLOORS

Subfloors should be prepared as described in BS 8203 / DIN 18365 or prevailing local / national standards. EXPONA CLIC 19dB can be installed over most hard subfloors, provided they are prepared in accordance with local standards. Subfloors must be hard, clean, and free from contamination, dry, durable, flat and sound.

Solid subfloors must be tested in accordance to local standards to ensure they are not damp. Carpets and soft floorings are unsuitable as a base for the installation of EXPONA CLIC 19dB, and will need to be removed prior to installation. Remove all debris and vacuum the whole subfloor area prior to commencing the installation. Where underfloor heating is used the maximum temperature on the surface of the flooring must never exceed 27 °C. Subfloors should be tested for moisture in accordance with local standards. Solid subfloors should demonstrate a maximum damp content of 75 % RH before the installation can begin.

Residual moisture content:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cement | without | UFH - 2 % CM |
| | with | UFH - 1.8 % CM |
| Anhydrite | without | UFH - 0.5 % CM |
| | with | UFH - 0.3 % CM |

Remove any unevenness in the subfloor prior to installation. Subfloor levels should be in accordance with local national standards and in any event, should never exceed a maximum deviation of 5 mm when measured under a 3 m long straight edge. High spots and ridges should be removed to prevent damaging the panels locking mechanism.

## 4. CONDITIONING

EXPONA CLIC 19dB must be protected against dirt and moisture during storage and both before and during the installation. The climatic conditions acceptable for the installation of EXPONA CLIC 19dB are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Floor temperature | > 15 °C |
| Room temperature | > 18 °C |
| Air Relative humidity | < 50-60 % |

Prior to installation, open the boxes and place them in the room they are to be installed in for a minimum of 48 hours BEFORE the installation commences, so the material can acclimatise. Boxes should never be stacked greater than 3 high. **Ensure that the room temperatures are between 18 and 27 °C during the conditioning period. Shuffle the panels to ensure a random appearance before installation.**

## 5. INSTALLATION

As EXPONA CLIC 19dB is a floating floor, a minimum expansion gap of 5mm should be left around the entire installation perimeter and anything protruding from the subfloor such as radiator pipes, fixed down items etc.

For larger installations over 5 m x 5 m an expansion gap of 1 mm per linear meter of room length should be used. For example, a room 8 m x 4 m would require an expansion gap of 8 mm around the entire perimeter of the room and around anything protruding from the floor. The length is determined by the direction in which the longest side of the panel is to be fitted. In areas under 5 m x 5 m use small offcuts as spacers between the panels and the walls to help achieve the correct expansion gap size. Skirting boards should be removed and door frames / architraves undercut to allow for possible expansion. A suitable quadrant or scotia trim can be used to cover the expansion gap.

EXPONA CLIC 19dB is a loose lay product. In areas subject to large temperature fluctuations such as heavily glazed areas and areas subject to direct sunlight, special care must be taken including a larger expansion gap of a minimum 10 mm and adequate UV protection.

If installing in multiple rooms, finish the EXPONA CLIC 19dB panels in the doorway on either side of the door to make separate floors. Allow a larger expansion gap between two such floors of double that left around the perimeter. Use two small offcut pieces of EXPONA CLIC 19dB placed back to back to gauge the correct expansion gap size at door thresholds. A suitable threshold strip can then be installed to cover the resultant gap.

EXPONA CLIC 19dB should never be installed across multiple rooms as one floor. Panels should always be laid with staggered joints, at a distance of at least 150 mm.



12 / 2019

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When adjoining other floor coverings, finish the EXPONA CLIC 19dB in the doorway. An appropriate expansion gap should be left between the EXPONA CLIC 19dB and the adjoining floor covering. This can be covered using a suitable threshold or diminishing strip (see diagram).

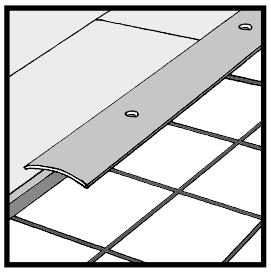
Fig. threshold strip

**Areas over 10 m x 10 m will require specialist advice. Please contact our objectflor Customer Technical Support.**

**YOU WILL NEED:**
- Pencil
- Utility knife
- Retractable measuring tape or folding ruler
- Handsaw / Hacksaw
- Carpenter's 90° square
- Rubber mallet
- Pull bar

The use of safety glasses and protective gloves should also be considered.

**a. First Panel first row:**
The panels are laid without glue. Start to lay the floor in the left-hand corner of the room with the lower male profile facing towards you (Fig.1). A minimum expansion gap of 5 mm should be left around the installation perimeter and anything protruding from the subfloor. For larger installations an expansion gap of 1 mm per linear meter of room length should be used. For example a room 8 m x 4 m would require an expansion gap of 8 mm around the entire perimeter of the room and around anything protruding from the floor. Use small offcuts from the panels as spacers between the panels and the walls to help achieve the correct size gap. Place spacers between the short and long edges of the panel and the walls.

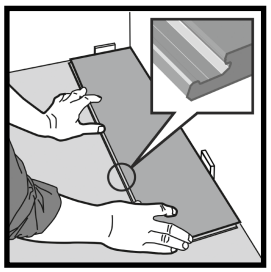
Fig.1

**b. Second Panel first row:**
Place the short end of the second panel close to the corresponding short end of the previous panel. Carefully fold it down with a single action movement (Fig.2). Press firmly down on the short end of the next panel into the corresponding short edge of the first one, these should now lock securely together. Using the rubber mallet gently tap down the short joints along the short end just installed. **It is important to ensure early in the installation that the short joints are fully engaged and locked into one another. Provided the panels align and fit flush with each other on the short joints after any hand / mallet pressu-re has been released, then the joints will be fully engaged. If they do not reapply pressure until this is achieved.** Complete the first row in the same way (Fig.3). Continue in this way to as far as full panels can be installed to the end of this first row.

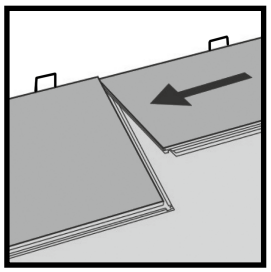
Fig.2

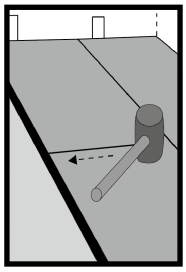
Fig.3

**c. Last Panel first row:**
Insert correct sized spacer between the end of the first row and the wall to ensure the correct expansion gap is left. Before cutting this last panel first turn it around through 180° so the overhanging male profile on the short edge is facing the spacer / wall. This will ensure you have the correct profile required when positioning. Measure the length of this panel to fit (Fig.4), cut to correct length (minimum length 350 mm). Note - The remaining part of this panel will start the next row.

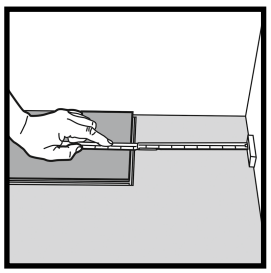
Fig.4



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**d. First Panel second row:**
Insert a spacer between the end of the first row and the wall (expansion gap). Start this new row with the leftover piece from the last row (min length 350 mm – Fig.5). Insert the upper male profile of the long side of the panel into the corresponding lower profile of the long edge of the panel in the previous row, at a slight angle. Press down until it locks into place. Always try to stagger the short joints approx. 150 mm from the nearest short joint in the previous row (Fig.6). Do not forget to include the required expansion gap to the wall.

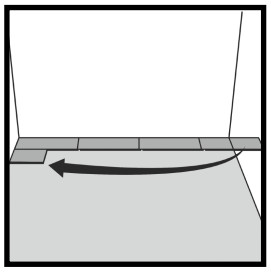
Fig.5

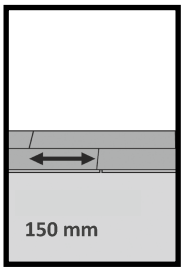

Fig.6

**e. Second Panel Second Row:**
Gently place the panel close to the short end of the previous one (Fig.7) and fold it down in a single action movement ensuring the corner of the long and short sides connect into the corresponding profiles of the short edge of the first panel second row, and the long edge lower profile of the corresponding panel in the previous row respectively. Press down and firmly to lock into place. Gently tap this short edge joint p perfectly into place using the rubber mallet.

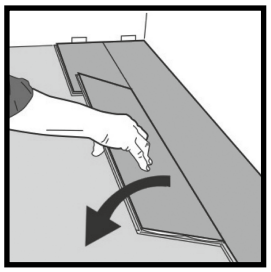
Fig.7

**f. Remaining Rows:**
Fit subsequent panels into place in the same way by easing the upper and lower profiles together on the long edges taking care to gently tap the short edge profiles together using the rubber mallet until they lock into place. Remember to place spacers to ensure the correct expansion gap has been left at the walls (Fig.8). Continue in this way to the last row.

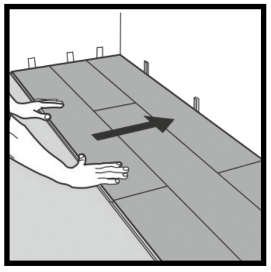
Fig.8

**g. Last Row:**
To cut the panels to fit the last row, position them one at a time directly over the previous row in the direction you will be laying them. Lay these panels on top of the installed row (Fig.9). Hold them firmly in place. Then line up a third panel on top. Place the edge of this panel against the wall after inserting a spacer. Use the edge of this panel to mark the cutting line with a pencil on the panel beneath (minimum width 50 mm). Carefully scribe along this line with the utility knife. Remember to place a spacer to the wall before measuring to ensure the correct expansion gap is left. After scribing cut the panels lengthwise. Remember to allow for the expansion gap. Carefully cut any excess with either a saw or a sharp utility knife. If needed a pull bar can be used to pull the panel of the last row into the corresponding profiles of the penultimate row.

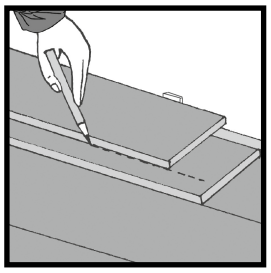
Fig.9

**h. Radiator Pipes:**
Mark the centers of the holes on both the long and short sides using a carpenter's square and a pencil. Where the marks cross, drill a pilot hole using a thin #6 or #8 drill bit. Further drill the hole with a spade bit wide enough to accommodate both the diameter of the pipe and the required expansion gap. Cut around as shown with a saw or with a sharp utility knife (Fig.10). Install the floor panel. If necessary put a bead of contact glue on the cut piece and replace. Insert a spacer directly behind the inserted piece to wedge it in place ensuring that the correct sized expansion gap has been left. Leave this in place until the glue has hardened (Fig.11).

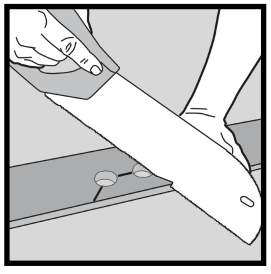
Fig.10

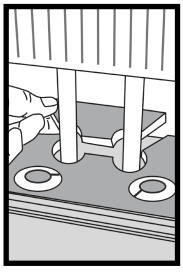
Fig.11



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**i. Door Frames / Architraves:**
When installing EXPONA CLIC 19dB around a door frame or architrave cut into the door frame / architrave with a handsaw, using an offcut panel as a guide for the height and the amount to trim off the door frame. Slide the cut piece under the door frame.

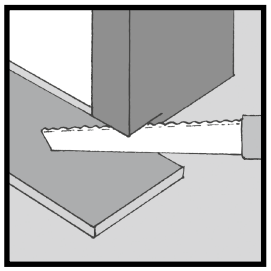
Fig.12

Because EXPONA CLIC 19dB is a floating floor, it can be walked on straight away after it has been installed. Remember to take out any offcuts or spacers you have used to gauge the expansion gap around the perimeter. Skirting boards, base boards, quadrants or scotia can be used to conceal the expansion gap, however they should be fitted directly to the wall or skirting board and never directly onto the surface of the product. Leave a small gap between the two (2 mm) to allow for the natural movement of the plank.

*EXPONA CLIC 19dB tiles are 100 % waterproof. Therefore they will not absorb water and the structural integrity of the product will not be affected by water e.g. no swelling. In the case of standing water or flooding, EXPONA CLIC 19dB will not act as a barrier between standing water/flooding and the subfloor, and as such is not recommended for continually wet areas such as walk in shower rooms.

**6. NOTES**

EXPONA CLIC 19dB is a loose lay product. In areas subject to large temperature fluctuations such as heavily glazed areas and areas subject to direct sunlight, special care must be taken including a larger expansion gap of a minimum 10 mm and adequate UV protection.

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